

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 through 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by the disclosures in the Cok patent. The Examiner has pointed out with certain specificity that every element of independent claims 1 and 12 is disclosed in the Cok patent. In view of the alleged anticipation, the Applicant has amended the independent claims to further clarify the patentable feature of the current invention. The Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the pending rejections in view of the above claim amendments and the following remarks.

Newly amended independent claims 1 and 12 each explicitly recite "correcting the RGB data based upon the selected set of the correction coefficients by performing a sum of products operation on the RGB data." As explicitly recited in newly amended independent claims 1 and 12, the "RGB data" is corrected by "the selected set of the correction coefficients" which is chosen from the "predetermined sets of coefficients." Furthermore, the RGB data correction is accomplished by the "sum of products."

In sharp contrast to the above explicitly recited patentable features of the current invention, the Cok patent discloses a different signal processing method and apparatus for correcting the sampled image data. The Cok patent discloses a method of interpolating a specific intensity value based upon the surrounding values by performing a clip function. For example, after it is determined that a specific region contains a stripe, the intensity value X is interpolated by performing the following clip function:

$$X = \text{CLIP} \frac{B}{C} (M - (S - M))$$

Where B and C are the middle ranked sample values of the four nearest neighbors, M is the median value, and S is the mean value of the eight next nearest neighboring samples. The CLIP function is defined in the Cok patent.

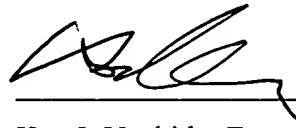
For the above reasons, certain element of the newly amended independent claims is not anticipated by the Cok patent. In newly amended independent claim 1, the "correcting" step is no longer anticipated since the Cok patent fails to disclose "the RGB data," "the selected set of the coefficients" and "the sum of product operation." Similarly, in newly amended independent claim 12, "the data correction unit" is no longer anticipated since the Cok patent fails to disclose the data correction unit that processes the RGB data" based upon "the selected set of the coefficients" and "the sum of product operation." Applicant respectfully submits to the Examiner that the newly amended independent claims are patentably distinct.

Dependent claims 2 through 11 and 13 through 20 ultimately depend from either of newly amended independent claim 1 or 12 and incorporate the above discussed patentable features of newly amended independent claim 1 or 12. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits to the Examiner that the pending rejections of claims 1 through 20 under the section 102(b) should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request a favorable Office Action so indicating.

Respectfully submitted,



Ken I. Yoshida, Esq.
Reg. No. 37,009

Date: December 15, 2003

KNOBLE & YOSHIDA LLC
Eight Penn Center, Suite 1350
1628 John F. Kennedy Blvd.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 599-0600